



City of Seattle
Seattle Public Utilities

MEMORANDUM

DATE: January 31, 2012

TO: Councilmember Jean Godden, Chair, Libraries, Utilities and Center Committee,
Councilmember Sally Bagshaw, Chair, Parks and Neighborhoods Committee,
Councilmember Richard Conlin, Chair, Planning, Land Use, and Sustainability
Committee

FROM: Ray Hoffman, Director, Seattle Public Utilities

SUBJECT: **2012 SPU Recycling/Waste Reduction Work Plan in Response to City Council
SLI 14-1-A-2**

In response to City Council's SLI 14-1-A-2, adopted during the 2012 budget process, SPU has prepared a detailed recycling work plan for 2012. The work plan responds to Council's direction to conduct an Every Other Week garbage collection pilot in 2012 as well as continue to make progress on other planned recycling programs.

Some of the highlights of the 2012 work plan include:

- Supporting the Council's plastic check out bag ban
- Procuring a new yard waste/food waste processing contract
- The Every Other Week garbage collection pilot
- Increasing promotion of residential food waste composting
- A set of programs to increase recycling of Construction and Demolition debris

All of these programs will help the city continue its progress to 60% recycling and beyond.

Several specific questions were asked in the SLI:

1. *Identify base activities and new actions that contribute to achieving the recycling goal, including an estimate of the amount of contribution (in tons and % goal achievement) for each activity and a brief explanation of the criteria used to identify the actions as priorities.*

SPU response: Please see the attached chart. The "tons diverted" values can be translated to increments of the recycling rate by applying the conversion factor of 7200 tons MSW

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diverted = 1% on the recycling rate and 2800 tons of C&D = 1% on that recovery rate (based on 2010 generation rates for both waste streams.)

These activities were established in the Solid Waste Management Plan process, which was to some degree based on the Zero-Waste Study. The main criteria in each case were feasibility and cost-effectiveness for recycling programs, and an overall effectiveness evaluation (including the benefits of managing some especially problematic wastes) for waste reduction.

2. *Show funding estimates for each action and the combination of resources (SPU staff hours, consultant contracts, etc.) assigned to the actions.*

SPU response: Please see the attached chart.

3. *Compare the actions in the 2012 work plan to those recommended in the draft Seattle Solid Waste Plan 2100 Revision, and explain any differences between the 2012 work plan and draft Solid Waste Plan-recommended action.*

SPU response: As the attached chart indicates, each element in the work plan is either specifically or generally mentioned in the draft Solid Waste Plan. Also, there are no recycling/waste reduction recommendations from the draft Solid Waste Plan for 2012 that are missing from the work plan.

SPU looks forward to the opportunity to discuss this SLI response more with you at the February 7 LUC meeting. In the meantime, should you or any of your staff have any questions about the response, please call Tim Croll, SPU's Solid Waste Director, at 684-7934.

Thank you.

cc: Karen Grove, CBO
Meg Moorehead, City Council Central Staff